

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We have received a communication from a resident in the Hamakua district complaining of many things, but of one thing in chief, viz., that the road taxes which the inhabitants of that district have paid have not been expended in the district. As to the road tax paid this year our correspondent may be accused of being rather in a hurry. The repairs of the year have to be provided for out of this money and there is need that it be husbanded for the purpose. But he claims that the grievance extends back to last year. If he be correct in his calculations the fact shows a weak system, and suggests the question whether the time has not arrived when some sort of local supervision of the expenditure of the road tax, and of moneys appropriated by the Legislature to supplement that source of supply, by persons elected by the taxpayers of each district might not be found practicable. Decentralization of administrative work is a great cry in many countries, and not without reason. It is simply impossible that a Minister can satisfactorily supervise all the work of road repair and formation and all the bridges and culverts in the Kingdom. The road supervisors may be the most painstaking and conscientious of men, but they would nevertheless be the better for having a head over them, present on the spot, instructed by personal experience in the requirements of the districts in which they dwell, and pay taxes. A measure of this sort, a step in the direction of local self-government would we feel sure be a popular one and though difficulties might present themselves at the outset, we feel sure that it would in the end be found a successful one. It is difficult to conceive any country of the same dimensions to which such a method of administration is more suited. Not only is our narrow territory divided into several islands, but on all the larger islands inter-communication between district and district is infrequent and comparatively slow. To have to refer every point of importance in the administration of purely local affairs to Honolulu involves at least a week's delay, and in many cases, when the matter in hand demands deliberation, it requires much more. A District Board as it might be designated would be less dilatory in its decisions, and would on the average be much more likely to be right, when it did decide, than any Minister or Superintendent of Public Works possibly could be. This idea needs to be ventilated and kept before the public mind. It involves reform in a direction which cannot help being popular and which the example of other countries has demonstrated to be sound.

Though the Louisiana planters are arrayed against us on the question of the Reciprocity Treaty, they are earnestly on our side in regard to the threatened reduction of sugar duties, and have been speaking out on the subject, as witness the following telegram:

NEW ORLEANS, January 15.—The convention of sugar planters, to take action relative to threatened legislation by Congress on the sugar tariff, assembled to-day. Ex-Governor Francis T. Nichols presided. Among the delegates were many of the wealthiest and most influential planters in the State; also a number of colored planters. Resolutions were adopted declaring that the sugar industry should not be annihilated in order to protect more favored industries, nor to settle political difficulties; that capital and labor here have with each other even more harmonious relations than exist elsewhere in the United States in any great industry; that our capital will be destroyed and our laborers dispersed and degraded and utterly impoverished by further adverse legislation, and that the present depression of the sugar industry of Louisiana is in a great measure due to the constant agitation of the sugar tariff and the resulting insecurity of capital invested in sugar production.

The resolutions further declare that if the Government thinks it right and proper to foster and protect the industries of iron, wool and cotton manufactures, the producers of sugar throughout the United States, as American citizen, are entitled to the same protection and should not be sacrificed for the benefit of the West Indies, Mexico and the Hawai-

ian Islands, and conclude with a protest against any further reduction of the sugar tariff. A resolution was also adopted protesting against the Hawaiian treaty and the proposed Mexican reciprocity treaty; also requesting their Senators and representatives in Congress to protect the sugar-producing interests.

THINGS IN GENERAL.

I was listening the other day to a knot of people who were discussing things in general—the things themselves, not my comments on them. In the course of the discursive talk some one happened on the subject of Chinese immigrants and their detention in quarantine on arrival here. Some one present wanted to know why this was insisted upon with them and not in the case of Portuguese or South Sea Islanders. The pros and cons of the matter were discussed and the general verdict was that it was all a sham to make the Coast people believe that we did not want Chinamen here, whilst all the time we are yearning to have two or three thousand of them to spread broadcast over our plantations—a sort of human fertiliser.

The day after that on which I had listened to the above astute conclusion, I met our Port Physician and thought I would feel his pulse on this subject. I wanted to know what he did with his Chinese when he got them safely on the reef and why he sent them there and why they did not go to Kakaako like the Portuguese, etc., just the questions I had heard discussed the day before. From him I learnt that these hordes of "Mongolians" (as it is the humor of the day to call them, albeit they have no Mongolian blood in their veins unless it has been acquired surreptitiously) coming from cities notorious for the constant presence of small-pox, are suspected of being capable of introducing the contagium of that disease into the country. They are only quarantined for so long a time as is necessary to examine them for symptoms of that, or any other infectious disease, and to fumigate all their belongings and to give their persons and clothing that good airing which they need so much after a couple of months aboard steamers and hulks on the way here, crowded up as they so love to be. I wanted to know if it were not true that a fortnight, or at most, three weeks, would suffice to show the existence of small-pox in any group of people who were isolated all the time from their fellow-men to the extent these immigrants by the "Rio Janeiro" had been. Whereupon the learned doctor gave me sundry items of information which were new to me and may be so to many of my readers on which account I will produce here some notes taken on the subject at the time.

"A recent number of the *Lancet* says that two cases of smallpox lately broke out in two towns in Scotland, one in each town, and further asserts that in neither case has direct infection been traced; and they have probably arisen out of the poison of an epidemic of two years ago (A. D. 1882). Medical knowledge has not yet been able to solve the practical important question—What is the greatest striking distance of an infectious disease?—i.e., across how many feet, or yards, of air does its power of re-producing its special symptoms extend? Or the equally important question—What is the length of the infective period of an infectious disease?—i.e., after the lapse of how long a time may we be sure it will not re-produce itself, even under favorable circumstances? One medical authority says that the infecting distance of smallpox is considerable, from thirty to fifty feet or more; while one case is reported in which the effluvia of smallpox crossed a river fifteen hundred feet wide, and affected ten out of twelve carpenters who were working on the other side. The vitality of the poisonous principle of smallpox may be inferred from the fact that clothing (especially woollen) will retain it for months, some persons declare for years, when confined. In the minds of many persons there is some confusion with regard to the meaning of the terms 'contagious' and 'infectious,' but there ought not to be much doubt in applying either of these terms to a disease. A disease is contagious

when it is propagable by contact, either immediate as between person and person, or mediate as through the carriage of the poisonous matter in a patient's clothing, secretions, etc. On the other hand, a disease is infectious when, without contact of any kind, its poison can act across a space filled with air, as it were, leaping across this intervening space to attack its victim. Both of these terms are applicable to smallpox."

Thus much I gathered from the doctor and went on my way rejoicing that these people, who, before they come here, run so many chances of coming in contact with smallpox, are hung out on the reef for an airing, and have their effects fumigated before they are allowed to enter the town. I had enough of smallpox three years ago, and hope I shall never again have to spend my time in a town subjected to such an epidemic.

All the talk this week has been about sudden deaths and inquests. In some countries there is an inquest held in every case of sudden death, and people want to know why it is not so here. Every man thinks that these things ought to be subjected to public investigation before a jury unless the case happens to be in his own house. Then his feelings, or his wife's, or his sister's feelings turn up on the scene, and he is unhappy accordingly. But feelings must count for nothing where justice and the public safety are concerned—*fiat justitia ruat cuncta* "heartstrings." Only, be it remembered, the law here is not like that of other countries; it only ordains an inquest when any person is "supposed to have come to his death by poisoning, violence, or in any suspicious manner," the question whether there has been poisoning, violence, or any suspicious circumstance in connection with the event being apparently left to the judgment of the Coroner. The old English statute about coroners is more comprehensive in fewer words, and says, "they shall go to the places where any be slain or suddenly dead." There is some similar law in most civilized countries. Nobody likes an inquest when he is mixed up with it himself, but for all that, the only controversy I ever heard before about Coroners and their duties was whether legal or medical men should hold the office. Here, our coroners are neither the one nor the other. If neither are available it seems to me to be a magistrate's function and in some countries where Coroners are scarce, Magisterial enquiries are made by law to take the place of inquests. I do not think the judicial and executive functions should be mixed up by making even the chief of the police department a Coroner. But so long as Mr. Parke has that office, and has to administer the law, as he finds it in Sec. 319, of the Civil Code, I do not see why he should be taken to task for not holding an inquest when the law does not say that he should. Meanwhile on the general question I go with the populace, and would have the law altered so that every case of sudden death should have a public explanation. If Coroners are paid by salary and not by fees, no one will suspect them of holding unnecessary inquests. A certain discretion should also be allowed them. Deaths occur unexpectedly, which yet are so evidently the effects of known disease, that no further explanation is needed. Accidental deaths, sudden, unexplained deaths, as well as those manifestly caused by violence or poison, or as to which any form of foul play is suspected, ought to be investigated before a jury.

I asked a friend the other day if he were going to vote for J. O. Carter. "Well," he said, "I am quite ready to do so, only I want to hear what he is going to say—I don't like buying a pig in a poke; if he does not come out with a platform he will not get my vote. I hear such contradictory stories about him." "Pooh! pooh!" I replied, "have you not seen what the ADVERTISER says of him; are you not satisfied with that?" Now the man who is not satisfied with what the ADVERTISER says is a most unreasonable mortal, but it seems I had stumbled on one of this sort, for all I could get out of him was "I want to hear what he has to say for himself." So my canvass that afternoon ended in disappointment.

ISLAND NOTES.

Submarine Eruption off Hawaii.

A correspondent residing in Kau, writes: "We have been greatly interested in a volcanic submarine eruption which occurred on Tuesday morning, Jan. 22, about half a mile off Apua Point, the east cape of Hawaii and some fifteen or twenty miles from the crater of Kilauea. A column of water, like a dome, shot several hundred feet up into the air, accompanied with clouds of smoke and steam. All Kilauea range, from the sea to the crater, was enveloped in the dense clouds that issued from the water, and the ocean was also covered with clouds of steam as far as the eye could reach, while rainbows spanned from Kilauea to the ocean. In the afternoon the wind blew a hurricane, uprooting trees all around us, but this high wind continued for only four or five hours. The next day was bright and clear, but a heavy bank of clouds still hung over the scene of the eruption and over the Kilauea ridge. No further eruption, however, has been observed at sea."

HONOLULU, January 28, 1884.

A sad accident occurred on Sunday to a native girl at Paahau. Her clothes caught fire, and before they could be removed, her entire body was so badly burnt that she is not expected to live.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HONOLULU.

MORTUARY REPORT FOR JANUARY, 1884.

The total number of deaths reported for the month of January was 55, distributed as follows:

Under 1 year.....	8	From 30 to 40.....	5
From 1 to 5.....	3	From 40 to 50.....	6
From 5 to 10.....	2	From 50 to 60.....	7
From 10 to 20.....	6	From 60 to 70.....	2
From 20 to 30.....	8	Over 70.....	8

Males..... 34 | Females..... 21

Hawaiians.....	40	Great Britain.....	1
Chinese.....	6	United States America	0
Portuguese.....	1	Other Nationalities.....	2
South Sea Islands.....	2		

CAUSE OF DEATH.

Abscess.....	1	Disease of Brain.....	2
Accident.....	2	Leprosy.....	1
Asthma.....	2	Opium.....	1
Beriberi.....	1	Old Age.....	6
Cholera Infantum.....	1	Paralysis.....	2
Congestion.....	1	Pneumonia.....	1
Convulsions.....	1	Rheumatism.....	1
Consumption.....	4	Syphilis.....	1
Debility.....	1	Suicide.....	1
Dysentery.....	7	Tetanus.....	1
Dropsy.....	5	Unknown.....	7
Disease of Heart.....	5	Whooping Cough.....	1

Total..... 55

COMPARATIVE MONTHLY MORTALITY.

January, 1878, deaths, 33; January, 1882, deaths, 45; January, 1879, deaths, 74; January, 1883, deaths, 46; January, 1880, deaths, 30; January, 1884, deaths, 55; January, 1881, deaths, 40.

DEATHS BY WARD FOR MONTH.

Ward, 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	
Deaths 1 12 5 2 2 4 4 1 12 1 2 2	
Outside.....	8.

NOTE.—Seven of the above were non-residents.

JOHN H. BROWN,

Agent Board of Health.

SICKNESS IN SCHOOLS.

DURING MONTH OF JANUARY, 1884.

SCHOOLS.	SCHOLARS.	SICK.	PER CENTAGE OF SICKNESS.
Fort St.....	173	2	.0114
Royal.....	369	5	1.4
Pohukaina.....	130	None	Nearly.
St. Albans.....	64	2	3.12
St. Louis.....	213	9	4.22
Preparatory.....	95	8	8.42

Scholars absent three or more consecutive days on account of sickness, or alleged sickness, are reported sick.

Shipping.

Inter-Island Steam Navigation Company's



TIME TABLE.

STEAMER PLANTER,			
BATES.....Commander			
Will run regularly for Kona and Kau.			
LEAVES HONOLULU AT 4 P. M.			
Friday.....	January 11	Friday.....	February 22
Tuesday.....	January 22	Tuesday.....	March 4
Friday.....	February 1	Friday.....	March 14
Tuesday.....	February 12	Tuesday.....	March 25
ARRIVING AT HONOLULU AT 5 P. M.			
Friday.....	January 18	Friday.....	February 29
Tuesday.....	January 29	Tuesday.....	March 11
Friday.....	February 8	Friday.....	March 21
Tuesday.....	February 19		

Steamer Iwalani,

CAMERON.....Commander
Leaves Honolulu Every Monday, at 5 P. M.

For Nawiliwili, Koloa, Waimea and Eleele, Kauai. Returning, leaves Nawiliwili every Saturday evening.

Steamer Jas. Makee,

FREEMAN.....Commander
Leaves Honolulu Every Thursday at 3 P. M.

For Kapaia and Kilauea. Returning leaves Kapaia every Tuesday at 4 P. M. and touching at Waialeale both ways.

Steamer C. R. Bishop

DAVIS.....Commander
Leaves Honolulu Every Tuesday at 4 P. M.

For Kukuiahele, Honokaa and Paahau. Returning arrives at Honolulu every Saturday morning, with

AUCTION SALE.

SALMON! SALMON!

Plantation Salmon AT AUCTION.

90 Barrels Prime Red Salmon.
A Fine Chance for Planters.

WE ARE DIRECTED TO SELL AT AUCTION

Tuesday, February 5th.

At our salesroom, at 10 A. M., the above lot of Salmon, for account of owners. The Salmon is in good order, and a liberal credit will be given on approved paper.

LYONS & LEVEY,
Auctioneers.

BANKING NOTICE.

The Undersigned have formed a co-partnership under the firm name of Spreckels & Co., for the purpose of carrying on a general banking and exchange business at Honolulu, and such other places in the Hawaiian Kingdom as may be deemed advisable.

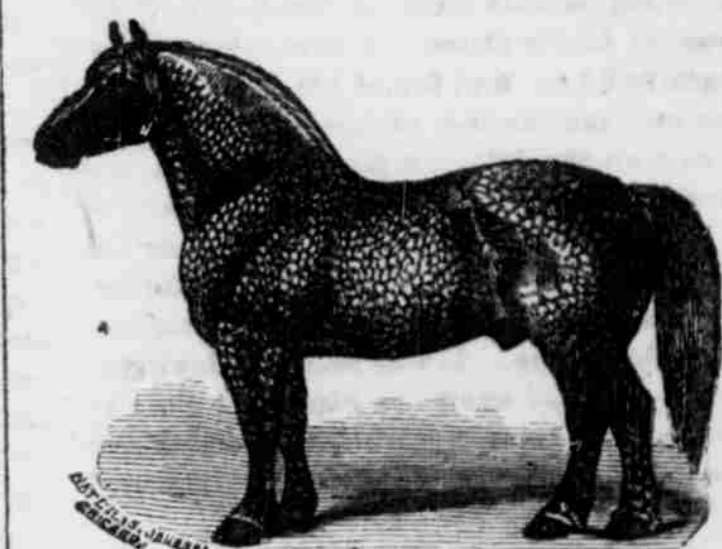
(Signed) CLAUD SPRECKELS,
WM. G. LEWIS,
P. F. LOW.

Honolulu, January 14, 1884.

Referring to the above, we beg to inform the business public that we are prepared to make loans, discount, approved notes and purchase exchange at the best current rates. Our arrangements for selling exchange on the principal cities of the United States, Europe, China, Japan, and Australia, are being made, and when perfected, due notice will be given. We shall also be prepared to receive deposits on open account, make collections, and conduct a general banking and exchange business. (Jals d wlm) SPRECKELS & CO.

THE CELEBRATED

Clydesdale Stallion.



DONALD DINNIE, Jr.,

Will stand the Season of 1884 at Puhuehu, Koloa, Hawaii.

Description and Pedigree:

This horse is a beautiful dapple gray, stands 16 hands high, weighs about 1,400 pounds, and is 7 years old; he was sired by imported Donald Dinnie; he by Glancer, No. 339, first dam by Prince Albert, No. 1,257, second dam Young Star, No. 1,377, third dam by Farmer's Delight, No. 139. Donald Dinnie, Jr.'s, dam was imported from Scotland by John Torrence of Canada. She was got by Clydesdale Jock; grand dam by Nonpareil great grand dam by Campsie; great grand dam by Prince of Wales.

The Fine Large Imported Jack.

SAMPSON,

Will stand at the same time and place. He was bred by T. C. Stevens of Stockton, Cal., who imported his sire and dam both from Kentucky. He has proven himself to be an extra fine stock getter and a very sure breeder.

TERMS—\$30 for the Season. Mares failing to get in foal can be returned next season, free of charge.

C. B. MILES,

Proprietor.

GEO. S. HARRIS,

Ship and General Blacksmith.

SHIP WORK, BRIDGE, HOUSE AND HEAVY Wagon Work, Moulding Bits, Planing Knives, Anchors and Anvils repaired. Goosenecks, Crank Axles and Wagon Axles made for the trade on reasonable terms.

Wagons for Traction Engines.
Artesian Well Tools, with all their fittings, a specialty.
All orders promptly attended to, and work guaranteed.
Shop on the Esplanade, in the rear of Mr. Geo. Lucas' Planing Mill.

Dissolution of Copartnership.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CO-PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between J. C. HARDEE and H. F. BERTELMANN, under the firm name and style of

HARDEE & BERTELMANN,

Proprietors of the Enterprise Planing Mill,

Is this day dissolved by mutual consent, H. F. Bertermann retiring. The business will hereafter be carried on by Charles J. Hardee, individually, who will assume all liabilities of, and collect all of the outstanding accounts due to said firm.

C. J. HARDEE,
H. F. BERTELMANN.

Dated Honolulu, January 19, 1884.

Referring to the above, I would respectfully notify all parties owing the Enterprise Mill that I desire to, and must, close all accounts due on or before January 1st, 1884, and would earnestly request that they come forward and settle at once.

Thanking my friends and the public in general for their patronage in the past, and soliciting a continuance of the same in the future, I am, respectfully,
C. J. HARDEE,
Proprietor Enterprise Mill.